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JOINT MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR
PROGRAMME AND COORDINATION AND
THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON
COORDINATION
Twenty-seventh series
27 October 1993
Item 1 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Annotated provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

The Economic and Social Council, by resolution 1988/64, stressed the importance of periodic meetings between Member States and the executive heads of organizations of the United Nations system in promoting better understanding and coordination of the activities of the system in the economic and social fields and of the role of the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Administrative Committee on Coordination in that regard. The need for further improvement in the functioning of the Joint Meetings, relating in particular to the timing, participation, agenda and follow-up, was reiterated.

In the same resolution, the Council decided that, in future, the Joint Meetings should be held in New York in conjunction with the autumn session of the Administrative Committee on Coordination. This would facilitate the participation of the members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination at a high level as well as the participation of the executive heads of the specialized agencies and United Nations programmes. The duration of the Meetings should be sufficient to allow for an adequate exchange of views among participants.

The Council also decided that the Joint Meetings should take the following measures relating to their work:

(a) Members of the two Committees should identify well in advance the specific issues for discussion under each topic and hold a concrete exchange of

views, focusing on practical measures to solve the coordination problems identified;

(b) The background papers prepared by the Administrative Committee on Coordination should include appropriate action-oriented proposals, so as to assist the Joint Meetings in achieving concrete results;

(c) Steps should be taken to ensure the effective follow-up at the intergovernmental and intersecretariat levels of the conclusions and recommendations of the Joint Meetings.

Finally, the Council decided that appropriate measures for effective intergovernmental and intersecretariat follow-up of the conclusions and recommendations of the Joint Meetings should be reported, through the Committee for Programme and Coordination, to the Economic and Social Council.

The General Assembly, in resolution 43/219, took note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/64.

The Committee for Programme and Coordination, at its thirtieth and thirty-first sessions, reaffirmed the importance that it attached to the Joint Meetings as a unique opportunity for a dialogue between Member States and the executive heads of the organizations of the United Nations system. It was recommended that the Joint Meetings be conducted in such a way as to allow participants to have as much opportunity as possible for an open dialogue and frank and extensive exchanges. The Joint Meetings should continue to be preceded by adequate preparatory meetings, and executive heads and representatives of Member States at the highest possible level should make every effort to be present at the Joint Meetings. The Economic and Social Council, in resolution 1991/67, endorsed the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the Joint Meetings, especially those concerning the need for a genuine dialogue at a high level between Member States and executive heads.

At its thirty-second session, the Committee for Programme and Coordination recommended the "Results of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and their implications for the United Nations system" as the topic to be considered by the Joint Meetings in 1993.

At its thirty-first session, the Committee for Programme and Coordination recommended that the twenty-seventh series of Joint Meetings should make suggestions to the Economic and Social Council, at its organizational session, on the theme(s) to be discussed at the high-level segment of the Council in 1992. The General Assembly, in resolution 45/264, and the Council, in resolution 1991/67, also indicated that the Joint Meetings should make recommendations to the Council, at its organizational session, on the theme(s) to be considered at the coordination segment of the Council.

The organization of the work of the Joint Meetings at its twenty-seventh session will be issued as an addendum to this document after informal consultations have been held between the Administrative Committee on Coordination and the Committee for Programme and Coordination.

2. Results of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and their implications for the United Nations system

In accordance with past practice, the Administrative Committee on Coordination has prepared a background paper (E/1993/121) as a basis for the discussion. The background paper draws the attention of the Joint Meetings to a number of issues recently addressed by the Administrative Committee on Coordination and its Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development and by the Commission on Sustainable Development, which are of particular relevance to the Committee for Programme and Coordination as the main subsidiary organ of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in the area of programme planning and coordination. These include matters related to coordination at the field level as well as at the international level; coordination among intergovernmental bodies; matters related to financing; and programme questions.

3. Conclusion of the meeting